GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:267
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2006
INTEGRATION OF INDIAN SYSTEMS OF MEDICINE WITH MAINSTREAM MEDICINE
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for integrating Indian systems of medicine with mainstream medicine under the National Rural Health Mission;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) the estimated expenditure therefore;

(d) the manner in which this integration will help the rural masses; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (d): The mainstreaming of AYUSH is one of the core strategies under the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). The integration of AYUSH with primary health delivery system is proposed to be carried out through state specific proposals for revitalization of locally accepted systems of medicine. The proposed initiatives include

1. Provision of AYUSH practitioners at PHCs through co-location or contractual appointments depending upon availability of manpower & funds.

2. AYUSH wings being set up in CHCs where adequate equipments and medicines are being made available.

The funding for functional integration of AYUSH with allopathic system shall be built into state specific Programme Implementation Plans (PIP) for various years of the Mission. The overall expenditure will depend upon the schemes proposed by individual states, current status of available assets under the AYUSH system and the strategies adopted by the respective states.

The integration of AYUSH system in primary health care system would reinforce the existing delivery system by revitalizing local health tradition with the use of natural, safe and eco friendly remedies, which are time tested, accessible and affordable. It would also allow optimal utilisation of the skilled healthcare providers and the partnership would ensure easy accessibility to health care in the remote regions where availability of the doctors of allopathic medicine may be lacking or deficient.

(e) The NRHM is for the period 2005 to 2012 and the strategies of mainstreaming of AYUSH are already being implemented in various states.